

**MINUTES OF OFFICERS MEETING
OF THE
MISQUAMICUT FIRE DISTRICT**

April 20, 2006

The Officers Meeting of the Misquamicut Fire District was called to order by Moderator, Peter J. Przekop, at 4:33 p.m. on April 20, 2006.

Members present were: Peter Przekop, Mary Delisio, Steven Pont, Michelle Vacca, Louis Misto, Neil Collins and Joan Przekop. The Solicitor, John P. Toscano Jr. was also present.

Edward Morenzoni, Finance committee Chairperson, was in attendance to present the results of the Finance Committee meeting held on April 8, 2006.

The Finance Committee consisting of Ed Morenzoni, Don Sullivan, Beth Lawrence and Michelle Pinto reviewed the proposed 2006-2007 prepared by the Moderator, Peter Przekop. The budget showed an approximate 3% increase, but with a tax collection rate of 97.5% the tax rate increase would be on the order of \$.01 per \$1000.00 of assessed value. The Committee recommended that a 97.5 % tax collection rate be considered. The Committee also recommended that some of the longer term taxes in arrears, amounting to less than \$100.00 total be removed. The Board decided to carry these taxes in the arrears.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed budget of the Finance Committee and present to the taxpayers at the June Annual Meeting. It was,

VOTED: To accept the proposed budget of the Finance Committee

and present to the taxpayers at the June Annual Meeting. (P. Przekop, J. Przekop, Delisio, Misto, Collins, Vacca, Pont-Yes)

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Officer's Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2006. It was,

VOTED: To accept the Officer's Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2006 as amended. (P. Przekop, J. Przekop, Delisio, Misto, Collins, Vacca, Pont-Yes)

The Treasurer's report prepared by William Sisco was distributed. (Attachment 1)

Mary Delisio, Tax Collector, reported that arrears bills were sent out on March 1, 2006. Some payments have been received as a result of that mailing. Currently there is only \$11,335.26 in uncollected taxes. (see Attachment 2)

Louis Misto gave the Fire Chief's report (Attachment 3).

- Applied for a FEMA Grant for new Air Packs and a Cascade System.**
- New 800 mhz radios will be received later this month as part of Washington County Radio Program.**
- Voted to upgrade benefits for the Southern League D & D insurance policy.**
- Seasonal inspections have started.**

The Moderator asked for the status of the portable equipment list, trailer registration and "hold harmless" agreement for the "mule".

The Chief stated he is still working on resolving those issues.

The Moderator provided his report, see Attachment 4.

The March Bloodmobile exceeded the goals established by the RI Blood Center.

The Moderator reported that he and the Clerk would not be running for re-election. He stated that their house was sold and they will be moving and therefore not eligible to hold office.

Moderator Peter Przekop provided copies of an anonymous letter (Attachment 6) received in response to Board action on a previous anonymous letter discussed at the September 15, 2005 and March 16, 2006 Board Meetings.

Discussion was held regarding removal of the previous letter from the September 15, 2005 Meeting Minutes. The Solicitor stated that the letter was already a matter of public record. Some Board Members felt that it should be removed. The Board decided that it was a matter of public record and should remain as part of the meeting minutes.

The Board discussed actions that should be taken if anonymous letters are received in the future.

A motion was made and seconded that anonymous letters should not be recognized by the Board or made part of the Board Meeting Minutes. It was, VOTED: that anonymous letters should not be recognized by the Board or made part of the Board Meeting Minutes. (P. Przekop, J. Przekop, Delisio, Misto, Collins, Vacca, Pont-Yes).

Discussion then ensued regarding the former Lathrop property. After

discussion a motion was made and seconded that the Town of Westerly be notified that the Misquamicut Fire District (MFD) considers 500 feet of this property north of Shore Road to be within the MFD boundaries and that the MFD be notified of any building applications for the MFD Fire Chief to consider. It was,

VOTED: That the Town of Westerly be notified that the Misquamicut Fire District (MFD) considers 500 feet of this property north of Shore Road to be within the MFD boundaries and that the MFD be notified of any building applications for the MFD Fire Chief to consider. (P. Przekop, J. Przekop, Delisio, Misto, Collins, Vacca, Pont-Yes)

The Board discussed the proposed Fire Department Incentive Program. This was previously discussed at the February 16, 2006 Monthly Officer's Meeting. Some minor changes were made regarding types of payment and record turnover.

A motion was made and seconded that the Program being proposed by the Firefighter Incentive Committee with the minor changes be presented at the Annual District Meeting. It was,

NOT VOTED: That the Program being proposed by the Firefighter Incentive Committee with the minor changes be presented at the Annual District Meeting. (P. Przekop, J. Przekop, Delisio, Collins – No; Misto, Pont –Yes; Vacca – Abstain).

After further discussion, a motion was made and seconded that the Program being proposed by the Firefighter Incentive Committee with the minor changes be revised to include the beach parking privileges voted by the taxpayers at the June 2005 Annual Meeting and be

presented at the Annual District Meeting. It was,

NOT VOTED: That the Program being proposed by the Firefighter Incentive Committee with the minor changes be revised to include the beach parking privileges voted by the taxpayers at the June 2005 Annual Meeting be presented at the Annual District Meeting. (Pont, J. Przekop, Misto, Collins – No; P. Przekop, Vacca, Delisio –Yes).

Further discussion was held regarding the proposed program and a motion was made and seconded to send the program back to the Committee for further work and presentation at the May Board Meeting. After further discussion the motion and second was rescinded.

More discussion involving the amount of the incentives continued. Some Board members felt that the award amount was too high for those volunteers contributing the least and not high enough for those volunteers contributing the most. A motion was made and seconded that the Program being proposed by the Firefighter Incentive Committee with the minor changes be revised to include the beach parking privileges voted by the taxpayers at the June 2005 Annual Meeting and to include revised incentives amounts as follows: change first tier from \$1000.00 to \$750.00, change and change third tier to \$1750.00 be presented at the Annual District Meeting. It was, VOTED: That the Program being proposed by the Firefighter Incentive Committee with the minor changes be revised to include the beach parking privileges voted by the taxpayers at the June 2005 Annual Meeting and to include revised incentives amounts as follows: change first tier from \$1000.00 to \$750.00, change and

change third tier to \$1750.00 be presented at the Annual District Meeting. (P. Przekop, J. Przekop, Delisio, Misto, Collins, Vacca, Pont-Yes)

Discussion was held regarding the hearing for the application of a liquor license for the White Cap on Atlantic Avenue. The Moderator and Clerk will be on vacation at the time of the hearing. The Solicitor will represent the resolution approved by the taxpayers at the June 2005 Annual Meeting that the District go on record as being opposed to any additional liquor licenses being approved within the District.

The Moderator and Clerk will be on vacation from May 2, 2006 to May 16, 2006. The Moderator stated that John Toscano will be in charge and should be contacted if any issues arise that needs immediate attention.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 pm. The next meeting will be May 18, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan C. Przekop

District Clerk

- 1. Treasurer's Report**
- 2. Tax Collector's report**
- 3. Fire Chief's Report**
- 4. Moderator's Report**